

# Chesswood Baptist Church

Where Everybody is Somebody

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MINISTRY OF THE WORD

## I HAVE FINISHED THE WORK WHICH THOU GAVEST ME TO DO

PASTOR HOWARD DANIEL, JR

PALM SUNDAY MORNING, APRIL 5, 2020

SCRIPTURE READING: **JOHN 17:1-10**

**John 17:2-4**, As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. **3:** And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. **4:** I have glorified thee on the earth; **I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.**

### 1. BACKGROUND

Refer to the Evening message April 5.2020

### 2. INTRODUCTION

- a. Today we are going to analyze a prayer prayed by the Lord Jesus Christ.
- b. A bird's eye view of this section of Scripture reveals that the prayer can be divided three ways.
  1. Jesus prays for Himself. **John 17:1-5**
  2. He prays for His disciples. **John 17:6-19**
  3. He prays for the church; the Bride of Christ. **John 17:20-26**
- c. This prayer is very short but thorough, taken no more than three to five minutes to read it.
- d. I obtain my pattern for short prayers from this chapter.
- e. I do not believe we have to come to God with a long list of things; but enter into His gates with praise and His courts with thanksgiving. **Psalms 100:4**, Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.
- f. We are commanded to pray without ceasing. **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**, Rejoice evermore. **17: Pray without ceasing. 18: In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.** Meaning, we should always be in an attitude of prayer maintaining perfect fellowship with our Lord Jesus Christ.
- g. I believe Jesus teaches this concept in His prayer.
- h. He taught the disciples to pray using a model prayer which is outlined in **Matthew 6:9-13** and **Luke 11:2-4** which we preached on during a previous message.
- i. Many have said this is the Lord's prayer; however, to set the record straight it should be considered the model prayer. The Lord's actual prayer is contained in **John 17**.
- j. The Lord teaches us in this prayer how to go directly to the bottom line. It is a great portion of Scripture. We are commanded to come boldly before the throne of grace. **Hebrews 4:16**, Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.
- k. In His High Priestly role, the Lord intercedes on behalf of the believer. **Hebrews 4:15**, For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.
- l. The revelation that He communicates to believers is carried directly by the Holy Spirit and placed on our hearts and mind. **John 16:13**, Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.
- m. We have to conclude that we cannot know the will of God apart from the Preserved Word of

God.

- n. Every single thing God wants us to know is contained in the Word of God. **John 20:30-31**, *And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: **31: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.***
- o. He carefully tells us in the Word that His will is for us to believe on Him who He has sent. **John 6:29**, *Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.*
- p. With a relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ, we are able to look into this prayer and glean from God's Word some very important things. **Romans 5:1** *Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:*
- q. We have the assurance that when we pray in God's will that He will hear us. **1 John 5:14-15**, *And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: 15: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.*
- r. **John 11:41-42**, *Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. 42: And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me.*
- s. There is no question that God the Father, the Lord Jesus and the Holy Spirit decided before the foundation of the world, that Jesus Christ would come and die for the sins of mankind. **Hebrews 9:26**, *For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.* **1Peter 1:20** *Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,*
- t. The Lord teaches us that it is not a selfish motive for us to pray for ourselves.
- u. Instead of long prayers in public we should enter our closet in secret and be prayed up before we ever enter the sanctuary for service. **Matthew 6:6**, *But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.*
- v. I am not advocating that we not pray during the service, but according to the aforementioned verse our most effective prayers are between us and the Father, uttered in Jesus' name. **John 14:13**, *And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.*
- w. With that thought in mind let's see what glean from God's precious and Preserved Word today.

### 3. NINE POINTS TO THE MESSAGE

#### a. Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son.

- 1. **John 17:1**, *These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:*
- 2. *Everything that a believer does should bring glory to the Lord Jesus Christ. **Isaiah 43:7**, Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.*
- 3. *It is the first lesson He teaches us "Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:"*
- 4. *When we are in the will of God, we can truly glorify our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Revelation 4:11**, Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.*
- 5. *The disciples needed to learn this concept which is what the model prayer teaches.*
- 6. *When Jesus taught the disciples, He taught them to say, "Our Father."*
- 7. *Here it means that Jesus is directing this prayer to the Father.*
- 8. *Jesus took on human flesh, but at the same time He was Deity and was with God in the beginning. **John 1:14**, And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.*
- 9. *Notice what He says to Mary Magdalene after His resurrection. **John 20:17**, Jesus saith*

unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.

10. When we have a relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ, we have the Father also. **1 John 2:23**, *Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: (but) he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also.*
11. There is no question there is a Trinity. There are people who deny that there is God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit; however, **1 John 5:7-8** is extremely clear.
12. There are three who bear record in Heaven. **1 John 5:7-8**, *For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. 8: And there are three that bear witness in earth, the spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.*
13. When we analyze the model prayer given in the Sermon on the Mount, we know that Jesus could never have prayed this type of prayer. **Matthew 6:12**, *And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.*
14. There was no sin or debt in the Lord Jesus Christ. **1 John 3:5**, *And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.*
15. Jesus can pray the prayer we are considering today. He lifted up His eyes into Heaven which means He knew that He was going back to the place He left. **John 16:28**, *I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father.*
16. If you remember, Jesus said to His mother when the wine ran out at the wedding of Cana, **John 2:4**, *Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet come.*
17. His hour has now come, and He is asking the Father to glorify Him so He can glorify the Father. **Galatians 4:4**, *But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,*
18. Jesus was on His way to the cross to die for our sins.
19. In that death, burial and resurrection Jesus perfected forever those who are set apart for Him.
20. This was a substitutionary, vicarious and redemptive death on the cross.
21. The song "Jesus paid it all" is very appropriate and correct.
22. All of our sins; past, present and future are under the blood that Christ shed for us. He gives to us his righteousness and the soul is now saved for all eternity.

**b. As thou hast given him power over all flesh.**

1. **John 17:2**, *As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.*
2. **Notice the Lord has power over all flesh.**
3. How many men and women understand that truth today? Either we will bow to Jesus in this life or we will bow to Him in an unsaved life to come as one stands before the Great White Throne Judgment. **Philippians 2:10**, *That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;* **Romans 14:11**, *For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God.*
4. We are privileged to be clothed in the righteousness of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ in this life. **2 Peter 1:1** *Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:*
5. *"he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him."* – The Holy Spirit draws us to the side of the Crucified Christ.
6. **We cannot earn eternal life. It is given to us.**
7. All of the methods made by man to get to God cannot work; it is only through the blood of Christ that our sins are forgiven. We must remember that man has a nature problem and only God can fix it, by the atoning work of our Lord Jesus Christ. God's divine nature is obtained by believing the promises he has set forth in the Preserved Word of God. **2 Peter 1:4** *Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped*

the corruption that is in the world through lust. **John 6:29** Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.

8. We are not going to be condemned; we are condemned already if we do not know Jesus as our personal Saviour. **John 3:18**, He that believeth on him is not condemned; but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

**c. And this is life eternal.**

1. **John 17:3**, And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.
2. There is a debate fostering a false concept of predestination that some people are elected to be saved while other are elected to be lost. The truth is believers are predestinated to be conformed to the image of God's Son. **Romans 8:29**, For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.
3. We need not even entertain any false doctrine like that. God's choice is a free will. **Revelation 22:17**, And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And **whosoever will**, let him take the water of life freely.
4. He defines eternal life. "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent."
5. Eternal life is defined for us and Jesus Christ serves as our mediator to bring us to the only True God. **1 Timothy 2:5**, For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;
6. There is only one true God in the universe. The Trinity: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.
7. "that they might know thee" - that they might know the Father.
8. Jesus even makes the statement in **John 6:46**, Not that any man hath seen the Father, save he which is of God, he hath seen the Father.
9. He is the one who brings eternal salvation to us.
10. Eternal life is to know God and to know the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour.
11. My friend if you have a problem believing that Jesus is the Christ you need to go back and check up to make sure that your salvation is real. **Philippians 3:10**, That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;
12. Jesus Christ is God. He served in three offices: prophet, preist and King. **1 Timothy 3:16**, And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: **God was manifest in the flesh**, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.
13. We are the Bride of Christ and the title Messiah has been given to Him because He is the King of Israel. **Matthew 1:21**, And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name **JESUS**: for he shall save his people from their sins.

**d. I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.**

1. **John 17:4**, I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.
2. Jesus was sent to earth to handle God's business.
3. God's business is two-fold:
  - a. To redeem mankind (the soul) at His first coming. He came as a babe in a manger and identified with sinful mankind. **Hebrews 7:26** For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; **Luke 5:32**, I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance. **John 19:30**, When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.
  - b. To redeem the body and the earth at His second coming. **Romans 8:23** And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body. **Revelation 1:7**, Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail

because of him. Even so, Amen. **Revelation 21:1**, *And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.*

4. *"I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do."* – This work included salvation for both mankind and the earth.
5. Man cannot add to nor take away from the plan of salvation and God's plan to redeem the earth.
6. The Preserved Word of God which contains God's promises is what saves us. We are drawn to the crucified Christ by the Holy Spirit. **John 15:3**, *Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.*
7. The Holy Spirit came to reprove the world of sin. **John 16:8**, *And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:*

**e. O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self.**

1. **John 17:5**, *And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.*
2. Jesus did not empty Himself of His deity. As He walked the face of the Earth, He was both Deity and human; however His glory was set aside. **Philippians 2:8**, *And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.*
3. **John 17:5** makes it plain that Jesus is ready to be reunited with the Father and the glory He had before the world began.
4. The Lord Jesus Christ is the all in all. He is the only Saviour. **Acts 4:12**, *Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*
5. He asks the Father to glorify thou me with thine own self.
6. **This is where Jesus is praying for Himself.**
7. **The scene now shifts to prayer for the disciples.**

**f. I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me.**

1. **John 17:6**, *I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word.*
2. God says He has manifested the name of the Father unto men.
3. Jesus called us out of the world. We are commanded to love not the world and come out from among them and be separate. **2 Corinthians 6:17**, *Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, **1 John 2:15**, Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.*
4. We are to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and we can have salvation. **Acts 16:31**, *And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.*
5. There are several striking things we need to explore in this verse.
6. God is manifested on the earth through His word. When we have the Preserved Word of God, we can understand the ways of God and remain in the will of God.
7. **Prior to salvation we are all lost.** **John 8:44**, *Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.*
8. We were all born in sin and shapen in iniquity. **Psalms 51:5**, *Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.*
9. *"which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word."* – We come out of the world and come to Him. **1 Thessalonians 1:9**, *For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God:*
10. The way we continue to grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord is to study the Word of God. **2 Peter 3:18**, *But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.*
11. There are so many saints today who believe they can do all kinds of super things and never study the Preserved Word of God. **2 Timothy 2:15**, *Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth*

*not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

12. My friend, we learned several Sundays ago about the total armor of God that there were two offensive weapons in our arsenal: The Preserved Word of God and prayer, both of which work together.
13. When we go into battle without those two elements, not being students of God's Word, we are going to lose the battle against the flesh. **1 Corinthians 9:27**, *But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.*
14. *"they have kept thy word."* – This phrase emphasizes the importance of the Preserved Word of God. **Proverbs 30:5**, **Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.** **Matthew 4:4**, *But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.*

**g. For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me.**

1. **John 17:7-8**, *Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee. 8: **For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me;** and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.*
2. These two verses contain a very potent message.
3. The Lord says He has given them what the Father has given Him. The apostles in turn, have given it to believers. **Acts 2:42**, *And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.*
4. We know that Jesus and the Father are one. **John 14:9**, *Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?*
5. He also says that He has given them the words that the Father has given Him. **John 1:12**, *But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:*
6. *"and have known surely that I came out from thee,"* – We cannot be saved unless we know who God is. **Hebrews 11:6**, *But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.*
7. The whole plan of Salvation is key in this next phrase. *"they have believed."* It is based on what we believe about the Lord Jesus.
8. We have people coming to Christ frequently and one of the things that I emphasized to them is they must believe the miraculous conception, that Jesus was born of a virgin, that Jesus went to the cross and died for their sins and rose again the third day. They must believe that Jesus is seated at the right hand of the Father making intercession for us and that Jesus is coming again.
9. All of this is justification by faith. Which is God's act of removing the guilt and the penalty of sin at the same time making a sinner righteous through Christ's atoning sacrifice. This speaks of the soul of man and not the flesh. **1 John 3:9**, Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. **John 3:3** Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.
10. This day in time we are attempting to shift that truth and say men can work for their salvation. There is no way you can work for your salvation; work comes after we are saved. **James 2:18**, *Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.*
11. *"they have believed that thou didst send me."* – They believed that God the Father had sent the Lord Jesus Christ into the world.
12. It is not about easy believism; we must know what we believe and who we have believed in.
13. **Now He prays for the disciples.**

**h. I pray for them.**

1. **John 17:9**, **I pray for them;** *I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine.*

2. This verse seals eternal security. **1 John 5:13**, *These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.*
3. *"for they are thine."* – Once we are saved, we are truly saved forever.
4. It is comforting to know that Jesus prays for the disciples.
5. Not only does He pray for them, but He also prays for us; the members of the church, the body of Christ.
6. *"I pray not for the world,"* – Jesus is not about whipping the devils kids. Everyone is held to the message of the cross.
7. *"which thou hast given me; for they are thine."* – When we come to know Jesus as personal Saviour we establish a personal relationship with God the Father as well. This is peace with God my friend. **Romans 5:1** Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:
8. The Holy Spirit was sent to convict the world of sin, righteousness and judgment.
9. Jesus paid the price. **1 Corinthians 15:1-4**, *Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; 2: By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. 3: For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; 4: And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:*
  - i. **And all mine are thine.**
    1. **John 17:10**, **And all mine are thine**, *and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them.*
    2. The whole purpose of the plan of salvation is to bring glory and honor to the Lord Jesus Christ.
    3. The question we need to ask sometimes is "Am I bringing glory to the Lord Jesus?"
    4. You do not bring glory to Jesus sitting in a pew; you bring glory to the Lord by being His representative here on earth.
    5. **Believers must understand that once He saves us He gives us a spiritual gift and we are to exercise that gift to the glory of God.**
    6. He does not give us gifts to puff us up with pride; He gives us gifts to glorify Him.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

- a. Do you know the Saviour?
- b. If you do not know Him as your personal Saviour, you need to come to Him through a pure heart.
- c. **1 Kings 18:21**, *And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.*
- d. **Romans 3:23**, *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;*
- e. **Romans 3:10**, *As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:*
- f. **Romans 10:9-10**, *That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10: For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*
- g. Please stand.

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